



File Code: 1920
Date: August 23, 2021

Dear Planning Participant,

The Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands (Cibola) is pleased to announce the release of our revised Land Management Plan (Forest Plan), Final Environmental Impact Statement, and draft Record of Decision. The revised plan is the result of extensive public participation and collaboration and will provide a framework for management of the Cibola for the next ten to fifteen years. We greatly appreciate the contributions of the participants in the plan revision process.

The release of the revised Forest Plan (expected September 2nd) initiates a 60-day administrative review period—also known as the objection process—which provides individuals and groups an opportunity to resolve concerns before final approval of the revised Forest Plan. Please see below for more details on the objection process.

The revised Forest Plan reflects the diversity of thought and the strong sense of place of the participants in the planning process. The plan addresses the long-term need for Shared Stewardship projects that support traditional communities and uses, emphasize sustainable recreation practices, and promote rural prosperity for the benefit of generations to come.

Key aspects of the revised plan include:

- Recognizing the value of traditional communities and uses, Wilderness, sustainable recreation, and site-specific management areas for special places.
- Focusing on accelerated restoration under an active adaptive management approach.
- Fostering healthier forests that are more resilient to wildfires.
- Increasing public safety by emphasizing forest and watershed restoration treatments in fire-prone areas.
- Facilitating improved habitat for plants, wildlife, aquatic species, and threatened and endangered species.

The revised Forest Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement, draft Record of Decision, species of conservation concern list, and other supporting information will be available for review at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=46268> or at the following office: Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands Supervisor's Office, 2113 Osuna Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113.



The Objection Process

Individuals and groups who have submitted a substantive formal comment related to the Forest Plan revision are eligible to submit an objection. Objections must be based upon concerns raised in the previous comment. At the end of the 60-day objection period, the agency will review the concerns presented and seek opportunities for resolution. Once the objections are resolved, the Forest Supervisor will sign the Record of Decision.

When can I file an objection?

Objections must be submitted within 60 days of the legal notice of release of the Forest Plan (expected September 2nd). Legal notice will be published in the *Albuquerque Journal* and posted at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=46268>.

Where do I send my objection?

- Regular mail or hand delivery (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays): USDA-Forest Service Southwest Region, ATTN: Objection Reviewing Officer, 333 Broadway Blvd SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102.
- Email: objections-southwestern-regional-office@usda.gov with subject: Cibola National Forest Plan Revision Objection (.doc, .docx, .rtf .txt .pdf, or .html format).
- Online: through the CARA web form at: <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=46268> (.doc, .docx, .rtf .txt, or. pdf).
- Faxed: (505) 842-3173. Faxes must be addressed to “Objection Reviewing Officer.” The coversheet should include the subject line “Cibola National Forest Plan Revision Objection” and specify the number of pages being submitted.

What needs to be in my objection?

For a list of the elements your objection must include, as well as further detail on the objection process, please see the helpful guide attached to this letter. The guide is also available at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd589506.pdf.

For more information, please contact cibolamtnsplanrevision@usda.gov. Thank you for your participation in the Cibola Forest and National Grasslands Plan revision process.

Sincerely,



JAY TURNER
Acting Forest Supervisor

Enclosed: Guide to the 36 CFR 219 Subpart B Objection Process